

Everything you need to know to land the perfect interview – Page 3

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Game Recap and Summary

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GEEK OF THE WEEK

"I own an elfish cloak that is a replica set from the Lord of the Rings, as well as two of Gimli's axes." – Page 5

Students prepare for Career Day

What's experience got to do with it?

Sophie Hancock
Staff Writer

What do you say when someone asks you, "What work experience do you have?" If you are tempted to respond, "I don't have any", this is the article for you. Last week on campus as part of the Fall Careers season, Kelly Satterfield, a recruitment representative from Lockheed Martin, gave a lunch presentation for students that feel like they don't have the experience they need to apply for jobs. Several students attending made comments like, "I need to know how to boost up my only job so far - working at Sears." John, who is due to graduate from Physics next May, admitted, "I really relate to that 'no experience' label. It's on my mind already."

Before embarking on the start of a career, getting that first job and completing the transition from college can seem really daunting. Many students fear reading job descriptions specifying several years of experience in addition to the hard won degrees and qualifications many top employers have come to expect. Seeing the words "two years experience necessary" in a job listing is often enough to dissuade excellent but timid student applicants, so they need to learn how to market themselves to impress recruiters in an honest way. Overcoming the chicken-and-egg situation of not getting the job without experience, and not getting experience until securing that first job can seem impossible.

SEE "LOCKHEED" PAGE 2

RIG: the "special forces" of audit organizations

Michael Rose
Staff Writer

Earlier this week, the Royalty Initiatives Group (RIG) came to the Colorado School of Mines to talk a little bit about their program and what it is they do in their offices. The presentation started off with a general overview of the two speakers and an explanation of the Cooperative Education Program.

One of the most important aspects of the presentation was the focus on the Cooperative Education Program. The Cooperative Education Program allows students to receive on-the-job experience while still attending school. Unlike interns, CEP students continue working throughout semesters, either in semesters, a single 6-8 month block, or a balance of both in a part-time schedule. In addition to on-the-job experience, Lin Sherman, the Assistant Director of the CSM Career Center, said "students will be able to transform work experience into up to three hours of credit."

The Director of the Royalty Initiatives Group, Jeff Carlson, was a product of this program. As a student at Chico State University, he interviewed for a job with the U.S. Department of the Interior through the Cooperative Education Program, which has translated into a successful 24 year employment. Recently, he has been chosen to lead a new group within the Office of the Inspector General at the Department of the Interior.

RIG, a high-profile financial auditing and oversight group within the

Department of the Interior, started in January of 2008. Their mission is not to simply audit, but to optimize the Department they work within. One particularly striking phrase was used to describe their goals: BHAG, or "Big Hairy Audacious Goal." RIG's goals are numerous, ranging from assisting in the wise stewardship of energy and mineral resources to providing access to the nation's rich cultural history in addition to their primary goal of oversight. "We want to be agents of positive change," says Jeff Carlson, "we want to be like the Special Forces of audit organizations."

RIG is offering a single post in their Lakewood, Colo., office, available to CEP students. Employees can receive great benefits, including tuition reimbursement, related to improving worker skills. In the next year, they plan to offer up to five more positions as their group grows. The group is looking for students with Oil and Gas backgrounds to assist in the auditing and review of cases such as non-producing Oil and Gas leases. According to RIG, of the over 60,000 Oil and Gas leases in the United States, over 40,000 currently do not produce. It is RIG's job to determine why, and perhaps make a recommendation on how to make these leases produce.

Already noted in *The Denver Post* for their evaluation work of the Royalty-In-Kind Oil Sales process, future publications by the group should prove to be equally important to improving the smooth operation of the Department of the Interior.



COURTESY NICK SUTCLIFFE

Neelha Mudigonda
Staff Writer

The time has come for Mines students to reap the benefits of their hard work and commitment. The Career Fair has taken place at the Colorado School of Mines annually for a number of years, providing the students with information on internship opportunities. By offering help with developing students' resumes, counseling students with interview tips and organizing a congregation of employers from around the world to inform the students about their specialties and offers, the Career Center has shown an incredible amount of support in advancing the students' future.

The Colorado School of Mines Career Fair of 2007-2008 seems to have the most participants of any year until now. Jean Manning-Clark, the organizer of the Career Fair from the Career Center, said, "There are 216 companies represented; twelve of which have drop boxes for resumes," because these companies are on the waitlist to participate at the

Career Fair at Mines. "The most exciting and unique aspect of this year's Career Fair," Manning-Clark said, is that "we have the most employers representing their companies this year... We have over a hundred companies on the waitlist [to participate in the next Career Fair at Mines]".

One of the volunteers expressed her opinion about the Career Fair by saying, "There are many new companies participating this year... like Apple. We've never had Apple hire interns from Mines before. This is very exciting." Some of the companies participating in the Career Fair are Abbott Laboratories, CNA Insurance Companies, Energizer, and Microsoft Corporation.

A couple of Mines organizations that are helping with the Career Fair this year are the Blue Key and the ROTC. One of the Blue Key members expressed that organizing career for the Career Fair was, "a lot of work, but, it's also a lot of fun. We've mostly been helping make the student check-in process [into the Career Fair] go smoother. Definitely, the most exciting thing is that we have so many employ-

ers this year that we're running out of parking space!" The ROTC has been mostly helping with parking arrangements for the employers and students attending Career Fair.

Keith Stevens, a sophomore and a double major in Geological and Petroleum Engineering departments, said that he was attending the Career Fair "to apply for an internship for the summer... for Aera Energy, hopefully on the Petroleum side."

Another junior from Mathematics and Computer Science wants to "apply for an internship in Apple. Work for [sic] their computers would be really cool. An Engineering Physics major is going to "try to get a job at Lockheed Martin. If I don't get an internship, at least there will be a lot of free stuff. So, it won't be a disappointment."

Jean Manning-Clark noted that at Mines for the 2007-2008 academic year, "the resume acceptance rate was anywhere from 95 - 99%," giving all the students hope that it is worth attending the CSM Career Fair. "It's a great opportunity to get to know the companies."

Orediggers host block party in Golden

Benjamin Weillert
Staff Writer

The sounds of the Mines fight song echoing off of the buildings heralded the arrival of a horde of students to downtown Golden this last Friday. Led by the marching band, cheerleaders and Marvin the Miner, students of the Colorado School of Mines marched to the down-

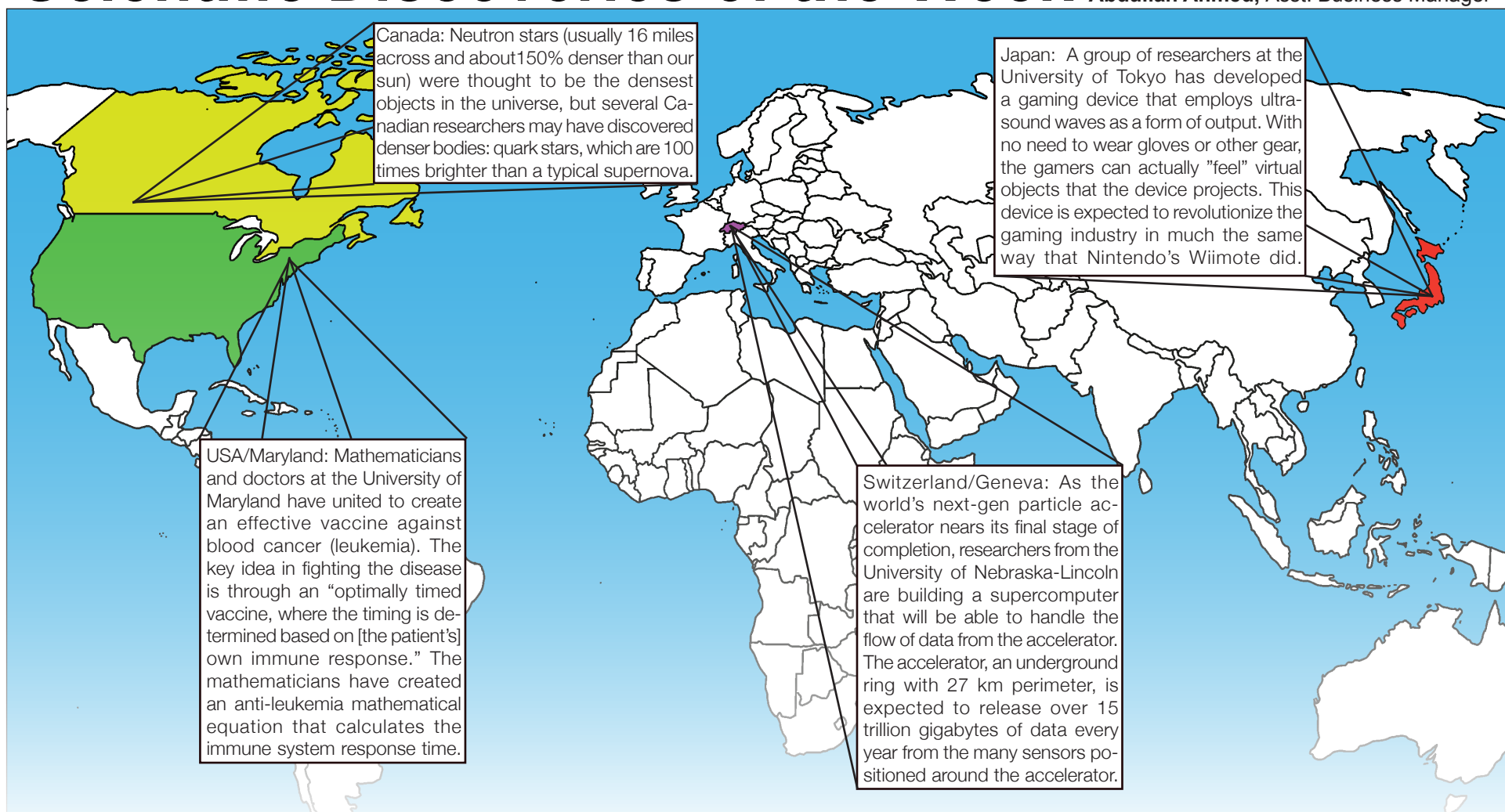
town area to spend time getting to know the community in which they go to school.

The event started earlier that afternoon with a pep rally on the IM fields. Many students were drawn to the event by the lure of free food and free T-shirts. "It's cold and it's wet, but who can say no to free stuff?" remarked senior Ryan Walter.

SEE "GOLDEN" PAGE 2

Scientific Discoveries of the Week

Abdullah Ahmed, Asst. Business Manager



Lockheed Martin discusses resume building without corporate experience

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

To be successful, the right mindset needs to be developed; if *you* don't think that you have work place skills to offer, how will a hiring manager be able to see your potential? The good news is that many fun parts of the college experience make excellent resume material by allowing students to explore and refine what they are good at and enjoy, and providing the opportunity to develop transferable competencies which employers are seeking. Valuable social, organizational, and leadership skills can be increased while participating in any club, sport, voluntary activity or class project. Well-rounded individuals don't only spend time in the library, but engage more widely in a balance of interests. Most students at Mines are already actively engaged in suitable hobbies, so have a good think and write that list.

Items to consider adding into your resume could include music, sports, community organizations, academic and technical associations, and sorority/fraternity membership. In fact, any passion or interest can help pro-

vided you don't expect it to alienate a potential employer. Even everyday general habits like following current affairs are valid interests. Satterfield reinforced the idea, "if you can clearly identify the competencies you gained from an experience, you are half way there to showing an interviewer that you have that same skill".

With a range of interests in mind to write about on your resume, you can then think about the competencies that pursuing this interest has required you to develop. Once you have a clear list of competencies in mind, you can think about clever ways to express them showing how these apply to a future work context. If you can do this, you have demonstrated that you are potentially qualified for the job. Kelly also emphasized the need to describe your listed work competencies "to include important details such as the role you play within a particular organization, what challenges you faced, talents used and outcomes generated".

Presenting experience as results-oriented is also very important. By stating precisely what you have done, it is easy for prospective managers to assess your role and thereby infer details of your talents and abilities. Consider the powerful positive impression created by reading that a Mines student "organized and motivated a committee to set fund-raising goals for participating in a regional competition", as opposed to, "I attended meetings".

In her recruitment role, Kelly attends many campus events around the country and collects hundreds of resumes, so she is ideally placed to impart a little resume wisdom. Selection

of your key experiences is critical. "Details past the first page often get overlooked," Kelly advised, so don't submit four or five pages. "One page in many cases really is the best."

Five core competencies Kelly marked out as being near the top of recruiter wish lists were: communication skills, initiative, adaptability/flexibility, teamwork, and problem solving skills. How many of these could you add to your resume with your new perspective now?

Lin Sherman of the CSM Career Center attended the workshop and commented afterwards, "this was a great interactive session that makes you think and analyze what the hidden 'asset' is in activities that you may not consider relevant to the interview process." This is the perfect time of year for students to get better informed about careers and job applications and there are lots of upcoming opportunities. Start thinking about your future this coming week. Make the most of the Fall Career Day, taking place on Tuesday, Sept. 9th, 2008 at the Student Recreation Center between 9:30 and 4:00 P.M.

March on downtown Golden

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

T-shirts were handed out in an effort to get students excited about the Mines athletic program. Students were encouraged to wear the shirts to future sporting events, such as Saturday's football game, for chances to win prizes. Sophomore Thorn Svendsen commented on the crowd, "This is a great showing and an awesome foreshadowing for our performance at the game."

In an ever vigilant push to increase school spirit, the students marched towards downtown Golden in a fashion similar to the E-Days ore cart pull, singing the fight song along the way. "I think it's fantastic. It's a pep rally and its real cause is promoting school spirit," said graduate student Kurtis Griess.

Once downtown, there was more free food waiting for the students along with booths put together by various local organizations and businesses. Students were encouraged to visit local businesses with a Bingo card that could be stamped and entered into prize drawings. Derek Morgan of Student Activities said, "The businesses are happy with the Bingo."

Morgan also commented on the success of the event, "For the first year, it went really well, and it has room to grow." Students enjoyed the community bonding between students and local residents. "It's definitely cool to hang out with people from last year and Marvin the Miner," mentioned sophomore, Evan Forbes. Despite the dreary weather, an enjoyable time was had by all.

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Mines students learn to “Dress for Success”

Ben Makuh
Staff Writer

“It all comes down to common sense,” said Kevin Gamble to a small number of Mines students assembled in Ballroom A for a career day event entitled “Dress for Success.”

The truth, he told us, is that our first impression at the Career Fair or a job interview matters more than we know. Being neat and professional looking is a very important point to an employer, because it shows that you as a potential employee can fit into the workplace environment and be serious enough to do the job.

“You want to stand out from the crowd,” said Gamble in reference to the career fair. Expounding upon that, he advised that one should never arrive at a career fair or an interview in flip flops, shorts, or a T-shirt. Nor is it wise to be uninformed about the company, monopolize the time of the representative at the booth, or ask for business cards.

How you dress plays a critical role in how others perceive you, and dressing too casually can devastatingly affect your chances for a job. “You want them to know that you’re smart enough, mature enough,” Gamble said. And dress is really only the bottom level. “If you don’t get the job,

let it be because somebody else was more qualified, not because you were under dressed.”

The tricky part comes when you actually land the job, though. Gamble explained that the high tech area of science and engineering has recently been going through an upheaval in accepted dress code. A common complaint among employees used to be, “If I don’t ever see anybody, why can’t I wear what I want to work?” In response, companies such as HP have thrown their dress code out the window. “Anything goes now,” but Gamble’s advice was still the same: act the part. According to careerbuilder.com, 41% of employers say people who dress better are promoted more.

The smartest thing to do is just stock your closet with the versatile basics: black pants, a dark pant suit, button-down collared shirts, and a classic pair of dark shoes. You can go from there, but remain conservative. Think about “what is appropriate for the workplace, and what is not.” Stay away from brighter colors and clothing that draws attention, because they distract from your presentation.

Gamble’s final advice was that “when the spotlight’s on you,” dress your best. “Use common sense.”

“Interview Skills and Strategies” for Career Day

David Vargas
Staff Writer

A Mines alumnus, Robert Carlson, was in the area recently to deliver a talk on interviewing skills. Mr. Carlson worked with United Airlines for about four years before joining CoorsTek, where he is serves as vice-president of finance and treasurer.

“Utilize your assets and identify your skills.” When preparing for an interview, begin by analyzing your situation and what your potential employer should know about you; as Rob continued, “Know yourself, know the market, and link the two.” Researching the industry the employer deals with will help reduce the jitters common on interview day. Also, the classic trick of practicing in front of a mirror will help you keep the tone conversational on interview day. If you’re wondering what types of questions to prepare for, you should focus your efforts on the following two. The first is “walk me through your resume.” You should have a clear, rehearsed one to two minute response ready, though be careful that it doesn’t *sound* rehearsed; “robotic” walkthroughs can quickly turn your interviewer off. You can either organize this response chronologically, or, if you are more inexperienced, try hitting the key selling points of your resume.

The other type of question you should be ready for are the “tell me about a time when” type of questions. Rob recommends brainstorming “five or ten experiences,” for this type of question. The stories don’t have to have fairy tale endings, but they should center around personal growth.

If the job you are interviewing for

is a bit of a stretch, then your best bet is to try and stand out. Don’t be afraid to bring a relevant project you have done, remember, “your experience makes you memorable.” Conversely, if you are called back for a second round, do not stand out; “chances are, they have already made a decision to hire you,” and just want to see if you fit in with the rest of the crew.

When you are being interviewed, try to remember that they are interviewing people for a reason; they need something done. During the interview, never say things like “I’m looking for an opportunity,” instead, focus on what you can do for them; the interviewer will likely be more responsive to that line of reasoning.

All interviews tend to end the same way: “Any Questions?” Instead of sitting there slack-jawed, have about ten questions ready, to show you have done your research. When thinking of your questions, use the advice given by Mr. Carlson, “Let them talk about themselves.” Companies like to brag, so ask questions that are likely to cast the company in a good light. Shy away from questions on long term toxic waste disposal.

Now that you have prepared as much as possible for interview day, don’t screw it up with the clothes you wear. The rule here is “don’t be afraid to overdress,” even if you end up dressing better than your interviewer; it shows you are taking the interview seriously. Finally, always send thank you notes, “email is fine,” and try to send it the same day. Many interviewers, Mr. Carlson included, will make decisions on who they want to see back on the same night as the interview.

2008 M-Climb a success

Freshmen “carry” on the yearly tradition

Mike Stone
Content Manager

800 strong, the class of 2012 carried their ten pound rocks to the top of Mt. Zion on a sunny summer day just two weeks ago. A yearly tradition, the freshmen start on campus and carry their rocks from home towns across the world up to the “M” so proudly displayed near campus day and night. On their way up, they show their school spirit by singing the school fight song as the upper classmen offer water balloons and squirt guns to fight dehydration. Once at the top, they kindly white-wash the rocks and each other with a fresh coat for the year.

“This was a typical, good year,” said Student Activities Director Derek Morgan. “We started at 8am, and took up the whole road as we went.”

Taking up the whole road is no easy task. The Mines Department of Public Safety had to shut down the intersection of 19th St and 6th Ave for 15 minutes as the freshmen class passed by. “Traffic was backed up to 58th one way and Heritage the other,” mentioned Chief of Police Keith Turney. “Sometimes there would be no kids crossing though, so the stopped cars would honk and it was probably not in support.”

Future plans are already being made for next year to prevent this problem. Chief Turney assured “We’ve got some strategies to handle it next year with Derek.” One idea includes a couple of big groups crossing one at a time.

As the freshmen progressed up the road, they ran into the inevitable- upperclassmen armed with approximately 31,725 water balloons. Yes, that’s correct- 31,725 water balloons. “It actually surprises me,” said school president Bill Scoggins, “With everything else going on the day before school starts, I’m intrigued by the amount of participation from the upperclassmen.” Student organizations from every corner of the school got up at 7am to be on the mountain before the road was closed at 7:45.

The organization with the most balloons was the proud Kappa Sigma Fraternity. Teamed up with the Sigma Kappa Sorority, they boasted approximately 6,000 balloons filled up over three days and by six faucets running all the time. Fraternity brother Grant Schulte filled balloons for five hours with Derek Patterson the night before. “We even bought six new trash cans to carry them since we didn’t have enough,” said a few members of Kappa Sigma. The fraternity filled 25 trash cans in all.

The method of delivery was all man power this year as three-man water balloon launchers were banned. Chief Turney explains, “They simply offer too much velocity and people get hurt.” This year, the reported injuries include a couple of bruises to arms and faces, one dehydration case and one cut hand from the fence at

the top. Use of water balloon launchers was considered 2nd Degree Assault and two officers on four-wheelers announced the new rules to all the students on the mountain. After being announced, there were no reports of use.

Freshmen Andrew Bosela and Connor McKay, both Mechanical Engineering majors, said, “The M-Climb was a blast.” They started their morning at 5:45am as “someone kept driving by with air horns and blasting Jimmy Hendrix’s Star Spangled Banner.” They were a little irritated, as Andrew mentioned, “just when you fell back asleep, they drove by again.”

A major change for the climb this year was the fact that the freshmen took the road all the way

“Traffic was backed up to 58th one way and Heritage the other,” mentioned Chief of Police Keith Turney.

to the “M” as opposed to climbing up the gulch just below it. “The problem was it bottle necked them and it took too long,” clarified Derek Morgan.

Chief Turney further explained that, “there are cactus and rattlesnakes in the gulch. That on top of the recent rain and loose footing, the ravine is unsafe.” A few students tested the length of the road last year as others went up the gulch and it took the same, if not less, time.

Once at the top, the bucket brigade began at approximately 10am. It was pretty boring waiting for an hour,” commented Connor McKay. “The water drained out holes as we waited for everyone to file in with the paint, so it was just paint being thrown.” After the

white-washing, freshmen were bussed down to campus and ate free Bennett’s BBQ as sponsored by the El Paso Corporation.

The remaining upperclassmen lingered as they cleaned up their stray water balloons across the road. “There were two troubled spots I noticed on my way down,” said Chief Turney. “Those organizations clearly didn’t clean up.”

“We have to practice environmental stewardship,” said President Scoggins. “We have to respect the Golden community if we want the tradition to continue. It is such a unique tradition to Mines that we must be sensitive in the future.” As a result of the mess left behind, 20 volunteers teamed up with Derek Morgan two days later to clean up the road.

Representing Sigma Kappa, Kappa Sigma, Alpha Phi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Beta Theta Pi, and other individuals like Alex Clavette, Brent Driller, Bo Bans, Ryan Merrion, Andrew Haines and Scott McNear, the group cleaned up the road for a whole hour. “We care about the wild life. We care about the community. Most of all, we care about the tradition and being able to do it again,” said a voice from the crowd.

Overall, the M-Climb was a success. Chief Turney said, “Everyone was well behaved for the most part.”

President Scoggins revealed that, “normally, we have to work hard for press to show up to school events. Not the M-Climb. I had more freshmen parents asking me about the M-Climb this year than ever before.” The freshmen will have an opportunity to pick up their rocks again in four years on graduation day.

STUDENTS

YOUR STUDENT BODY
PRESIDENT, KEVIN DUFFY,
INVITES YOU TO THE FIRST
ASCSM MEETING OF THE YEAR.

ASCSM meetings begin September
11th and continue to run every two
weeks throughout the semester.

All meetings are held at 7 PM in
Student Center
Ballrooms A and B.

Agenda Items Include:
➤ Affirming Student
Government Priorities for the
2008-2009 School Year
➤ Membership Confirmation for
Various Committees

Who is Sarah Palin, anyway?

Cameron Cotten
Staff Writer

Recently at the Republican National Convention, John McCain announced that Sarah Palin would be his running mate for this year's presidential election. Palin has served as the governor of Alaska since December 2006, and she has maintained a high approval rating throughout her term. Palin is a lifetime member of the NRA and an anti-abortion group called Feminists for Life. She is a non-denominational Christian and mother of five. Politically, she describes herself as conservative fiscally and socially, "as pro-life as any candidate can be," supportive of capital punishment, opposed to same-sex marriage and rights for same-sex couples, and strongly in favor of drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Palin's first political office was a city council member from 1992-1996 in Wasilla, Alaska, which is the fourth largest and fastest-growing city in Alaska, with a U.S. census population estimate of 9,780 in 2007. Palin later became the mayor of Wasilla in 1996. Her platform highlighted the issues of wasteful government spending and high taxes, though critics complained of her focus on issues of gun control and abortion, which had no apparent bearing on small town politics. After being elected, Palin asked several city officials to resign, and the police chief was fired soon after. She

reduced the local property tax by 40% and the mayoral salary as well, but increased city sales tax to fund a sports complex that eventually went over budget.

Palin lost a bid for lieutenant governor of Alaska in 2002 after she was no longer able to hold the office of mayor of Wasilla because of term limits. In 2006, she was elected governor of Alaska by a significant margin, declaring that education, public safety, and transportation would be cornerstones of her administration. Keeping in line with her actions as mayor of Wasilla, she endorsed bids to unseat Alaska's only U.S. Representative in Congress and, more recently, dismissed public safety commissioner Walter Monegan in July 2008. She is a proponent of harvesting and exporting Alaska's fossil fuel resources, approving seed money to build a new natural gas pipeline from northern Alaska to the lower 48 states and does not feel that climate change is "man-made."

Palin is expected to bring a strong conservative influence to the Republican ticket. She stated in an interview with *Time* that "it is individual Americans and American families who can make better decisions for ourselves than government can ever make for us." Her speech at the RNC showed that she has the ability to work a crowd, and her slick style and stage presence will likely be great assets in the rest of the presidential race.

Giuliani speaks to RNC

Amanda Rock
Staff Writer

Former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani animated the crowds during his address on Wednesday night of the Republican National Convention. Giuliani solidly backed Republican Presidential Nominee John McCain and vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin, recalling his remarks about McCain a year ago when they were both still vying for the nomination, "if I weren't running for president, I'd be supporting John McCain." Now, the former New York City mayor hits the campaign trail for his past rival.

Giuliani showed a great deal of enthusiasm for the V.P. nominee, stating that "Governor Palin represents a new generation. She's already one of the most successful governors in America and the most popular." Giuliani also chastised Democrats for doubting Palin's ability to balance family and the V.P. position. "When do they ever ask a man that question?" he demanded, pointing out the lack of gender equality in the accusations. "In choosing Governor Sarah Palin as his running mate," Giuliani

stated, "John McCain has chosen for the future."

To emphasize the experience of the Republican ticket, Giuliani said that "the choice in this election comes down to substance over style. John McCain has been tested; Barack Obama has not."

The former mayor went on to describe Senator Obama's lack of leadership experience: "He's never run a city. He's never run a state. He's never run a business. He's never run a military unit. He's never had to lead people in crisis... Barack Obama has never led anything." He continued by cautioning that "tough times require strong leadership, and this is no time for on-the-job training."

In rebuttal to Democratic remarks that Palin is too inexperienced to be a heartbeat away from the Presidency, Giuliani said that "as far as I'm concerned, the first day she was mayor, she had more experience as an executive than — than Obama and Biden combined."

Giuliani touched on the highlights of McCain's plans for the country, should he be elected in November, "John McCain will lower taxes so

our economy can grow."

"He'll reduce government to strengthen our dollar. He'll expand free trade so we can be more competitive. And he will lead us to energy independence so we can be free of foreign oil," said Giuliani. The former mayor also took the opportunity to reminding citizens that America is still under the threat of attackers, "John McCain will keep us on offense against terrorism at home and abroad."

All of the hubbub over 'change' in the 2008 election was not overlooked by Giuliani. He said that "[The Democrats] would have you believe that this election is about change versus more of the same, but that's really a false choice, because there's good change and bad change."

With an African-American man on the top of one ticket and a woman on the bottom of the other, there is no question that Washington will be a different place regardless of who walks away with the election. But the former mayor warns: "Change is not a destination," he said "just as hope is not a strategy."

Mines goes international

Amanda Walton
Staff Writer

The Office of International Programs at Mines is full of unrivaled opportunities. Its function is to "govern and supervise" all the international activities at Mines. From professor-driven summer expeditions to study abroad activities, CSM has over sixty exchange agreements with engineering schools all over the world.

For any travel questions, Kay Godel-Gengenbach is the woman to speak with. She handles every exchange account that goes through the office. She has traveled to most of the schools that have an exchange agreement with CSM and can answer questions about the curriculum, as well as the living situations available and what the cities are like.

Mines students travel overseas for a variety of reasons. According to Kay, some go for the adventure and some for the subsequent business opportunities. A lot of the students just "need a break," she says.

Many corporations looking for Mines graduates are multinational corporations. Having an experience such as living abroad allows recruiters to see a potential hire that is capable of expanding their horizons and adapting to new situations. If they did well, it demonstrates the potential to succeed in a dynamic and unique environment. Studying abroad also offers students the chance to study different special-

izations that they might not be able to study at CSM.

Mines is a school like no other in environment and social atmosphere. Therefore, it's only fitting that we are working to redefine how foreign exchange programs function. Now, there is an opportunity for students to gain internships with overseas companies and receive some school credit for them. And even though many students that travel never work overseas once they graduate, they return to the U.S. with ideas for how they can do it better here.

The question isn't really why to travel, but "why not?" Before settling on an agreement, a representative from Mines thoroughly reviews the coursework at the school in question. This allows students to study the same curriculum that they otherwise would have been, avoiding the trap of falling behind. Students who can travel within their first two years of school will encounter no obstacles to graduating within four years. As long as the student passes the class with a C or above, it transfers with no trouble and won't affect the student's GPA. Finally, tuition for international schools is paid at CSM and should never cost anything above the normal tuition. Kay said that it's the mission of the CSM Office of International Programs to "make travel possible for as many students as possible."

FOUNDATION CELEBRATION OF MINES CONTEST WINNER

Thank you to all the students that participated in the Colorado School of Mines Foundation trivia contest during the Celebration of Mines last week. The winner of the \$50 gift certificate to Woody's Pizza is Mark Husted. Mark answered the following philanthropic questions correctly: when was the Green Center dedicated, how much did the Senior Class Gift raise in 2007, and what was the full name of the donor that Kafadar Commons is named after. The Foundation is the philanthropic side of Mines that partners with the school to fund the present and secure the future.

executive LECTURE SERIES

J. Michael Yeager

Group Executive and Chief Executive Petroleum
BHP Billiton



**Resourcing the Future:
Keys to Opening
New Doors in the
Petroleum
Industry**

**Monday, September 15, 12 - 1 p.m.
Ballrooms, Ben H. Parker Student Center**

Box lunch available to students following the talk.
Please RSVP to Pat Bohner at 303.273.3135 or patricia.bohner@is.mines.edu



Geek of the Week

...Ben Vought, Junior: Computer Science

Alyssa Volk
Staff Writer

[Oredigger] Do you consider yourself a geek?

[Vought] Yes. My older brother attended CSM for about four or five years. By the time I got up here, I considered myself a geek. Coming to Mines is kind of an indication of that.

How many digits can you recite pi to?

Forty-seven digits: 3.14159 26535 89793 23846 26433 83279 50288 41971 69399 375.

Do you have any nicknames?

The most well-known one is 'B-Jammin'. I have also been called 'The Raccoon' in paintball because whether or not I'm wearing sunglasses, I have these patches

around my eyes that don't sunburn. These white circles around my eyes and nose stay perfectly pale.

What activities or clubs are you involved in?

I am president of the CSM role-playing club.

What is your take on the World Wide Web?

It's basically a reflection of the world and it's starting to become part of everyday society very fast. In fact, I don't think I've gone a day without speaking some Lol Catz.

Would you care to describe 'Lol Catz'?

Lol Catz started with taking pictures of cats and kittens and putting funny texts with them. It's a way of humorously misspelling words. It's an old joke.

What is the geekiest thing you own?

I own an elfish cloak that is a replica set from the Lord of the Rings, as well as two of Gimli's axes. I also have this bracelet with the elfish word for 'friend' on it. Each of my brothers has a matching bracelet and cloak.

If you could be any superhero, who would it be and why?

I have thought about that one considerably. I am going to be running a 'Mutants and Masterminds Role Playing Campaign,' so I've been thinking a lot lately about superheroes. If I could choose one, it would be a Mimic.

What exactly is a Mimic?

It's like Rogue in X-Men. I'd be able to mimic other people's powers or any traits that I could see or touch.

Would you have a cape?

No cape. Maybe I'd mimic someone else's cape though. Superman has a cape and he isn't my favorite. He has everything going for him: he's permanently super muscular and never has to work out.

Star Trek? Babylon 5? Dilbert?

I've seen most of Star Trek. I used to watch Babylon 5. Dilbert is really funny and definitely a good one when you're going into computer science.

What's your favorite movie line?

It's a line from Iron Man. 'I need two things: an American cheeseburger and a press conference. Cheeseburger first.'

What is the best geek joke you know?

It's not really a geek joke, but I know the best pick-up line for a



COURTESY ALYSSA VOLK/OREDIGGER
Lord of the Rings: Ben models his LOTR costume

Mines geek. You go up to a girl and ask: 'Have you done your homework?' If she says no, then you say 'Would you like some help with it?' If she says yes, you ask 'Can you help me with mine?' It always works out.

What is your favorite electronic gadget?

"It's called the Annoyatron (check it out at thinkgeek.com). It beeps at random time intervals and has a great random algorithm. It also alters tones. It is a microchip about the size of my little finger, with a magnet attached to it. You can stick it anywhere metal."

"Some guy invented it to drive his employer crazy and it worked. The boss offered a raise to anyone who could find whatever was making the beeping sound. Every person in the office was in on it, so nobody took the offer. He tore his office apart several times trying to find it, but finally ended up transferring to another office. It was causing him so much anxiety not knowing where the beep came from."

Do you have any geeky talents?

I'm a hardcore gamer. I can also remember almost anything I can put in geometric combinations. I can remember anything I can men-

tally form into tetra shapes. I used to work at Subway and I would remember what people wanted by making tetra shapes out of the containers. The place that I worked would change things up everyday and it would drive me crazy because I couldn't remember where things were. I kept thinking 'It's no longer a sideways 'L.'

How do you like to spend your summers?

I work at Subway, play video games, and check up on my online chat channels. I also run an online corporation on EVE-online. It's a science fiction corporation dealing with space exploration and it's colonization-based.

What is the geekiest thing you've seen at Mines?

At the Saint Patrick's Day Parade last year, I saw a friend of mine in the band dancing with Marvin (the miner mascot) while playing the tuba.

I saw you defending freshmen at the M-Climb. What's the story on that?

My freshman year, the fraternities and sororities were using these gigantic slingshots. They were like siege weapons to throw water balloons. I came down pretty badly bruised. One guy actually took my 10 pound rock and dropped it in a big drum full of water. He made me walk past him and his friends while they slammed balloons into me and painted me. I decided to return the unfair play. Revenge factored in a bit. I no longer wanted to get the freshmen; I wanted to get the people who did it to me."

Tell me something about yourself that very few people know.

My right eye is really light sensitive. It cannot stand bright lights and projectors. I can pretty much only look at the sun with my left eye. My left eye has better day vision and my right eye has better night vision.

Do you know a real geek? Nominate them now by e-mailing oredig@mines.edu

Students stay fit to earn prizes

Autumn Triesch
Staff Writer

The techno music is pumping through the room of mirrors as students gather up their weights, step, jump rope and sticky mat. The instructor has them stretch and then the exercise class is on their way to a full workout.

The Recreation Center this fall is offering exercise classes unlike ever before. With loud energetic music and encouraging instructors, the group classes are a great way to stay in shape as schedules get busy. Now, there is the Fall Fitness Challenge to encourage students and faculty to attend and work out more. The Challenge is to attend the classes to rack up at least 70 points over the course of the semester. The hour classes are two points and the HardCORE class is one point. At the end of the semester, the students who have received the goal amount of points are entered into a raffle for prizes including ATV rides, VIP paint balling, massages, gift cards, and a stay at a bed and breakfast. There are a total of 15 prizes to be raffled off.

"All you need to do is come to class and sign in. We are trying to get more people into the Rec Center, and we needed to give people an incentive at this school to do that. With schoolwork and deadlines, we wanted a way that people would still come and get healthy," said senior and instructor Julianna Sipeki.

"I like the exercise classes because it keeps me fit. It is really easy to gain weight in college. Putting the prizes and incentives for attendance on the classes gets the students to go. It is a really good idea," said junior Estavan Bunker.

There are no prerequisites needed to attend. Students of any fitness level are welcome to come to any class.

"Everyone should come try it. Obviously no one is going to make fun of you; no one is going to tease you. It is going to give you good experience and it is free! It is a good chance to get started exercising. It is a good alternative if you are not

comfortable in the weight room," said Sipeki.

There are nine different classes offered. There is a 2-point class every weekday at noon. There is HardCORE Monday through Thursday at 5. Then there is another 2-point class in the evenings. There is an exercise class that fits into anyone's schedule and style.

"I went to Body Reformer, Yoga, Power Step and HardCORE. HardCORE has been my favorite by far. Having a classes offered at lunch and classes in the evening makes it easier to work into my schedule," said Sophomore Ann Lott.

"The most popular classes this year have been HardCORE and Yoga. There were 46 people who attended the yoga class (last Tuesday). It is a good resource for students. Other places are so expensive. You can go to 24-hour fitness and pay 70 or 80 dollars for a membership and it only pays off if you go to the classes. Here they are all free," said Sipeki.

Each class is specialized in one area of fitness. Boot Camp uses intervals, circuits and plyometrics to increase cardio and muscle strength. Body Reformer is Pilates-based class that will tone muscles and improve balance. Power Pump is strength training and endurance. Total Body Power is an intense routine that has variations for every level of fitness. Power Step is a fat-burning class that will improve coordination and agility. HardCORE tones the stomach and back to encourage better posture. Step and Sculpt increases endurance while burning calories.

"I went to HardCORE to see how physical it would be. I really enjoyed it. I am definitely going again," said freshman Jordan Shoemaker.

The Fall Fitness Challenge will continue throughout this whole semester. Start attending soon to make the goal of 70 points.

"There has been a lot of positive feedback so far. Students just need to keep attending. It is a good stress reliever. It is good muscle work. It is good cardio; it burns calories. These classes will help keep you healthy," said Sipeki.

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Music Review

The Rhumb line. Ra Ra Riot

Spencer Nelson
Staff Writer

Most bands take years to develop. The guitarist needs to learn how to play with the bassist. The vocalist needs to write lyrics appropriate to the music style. The drummer needs to bring it all together with the beat. Throwing in a violin and cello usually makes the balance even harder to achieve. However, a band from Syracuse, New York, seems to have pulled off the mix in less than two years.

Ra Ra Riot's first album, **The Rhumb Line**, proves that upbeat music can still be relaxing. Although a violin and cello can be easily lost with most bands, Ra Ra Riot promises that this will not be the case for their group. The opening track, "Ghost Under Rocks," begins with the cello and continues to be string-driven through the rest of the song.

This trend continues throughout the album as the strings continue to be the centerpiece. Pop string arrangements appear especially strong on "Winter '05," a song reminiscent of the Beatles classic "Eleanor Rigby." However, Ra Ra Riot's style shifts throughout the album, starting the album with the easy listening tracks "Ghost Under Rocks" and "Each Year." **The Rhumb Line** becomes dance-worthy on "Dying is Fine" and a cover of

Kate Bush's "Suspended in Gaffa" while it takes on an 80's power pop sound on "Too Too Too Fast."

For lyrics, Ra Ra Riot aims for poetry. As a result, some songs are difficult to pull a meaning out of. Sentences often run together, giving the songs a sense of continuity, but occasionally sacrificing meaning to do so. Despite this lyrical structure, some songs do have evident meaning. An example of this is apparent on "Can You Tell," wherein singer Wes Miles wonders if a girl knows the way he feels about her. The general theme throughout though is focused on poetry. One song, "Dying is Fine," is based extensively on a poem by E. E. Cummings.

Over all, **The Rhumb Line** combines an upbeat tempo with a laid back, relaxing sound and poetic lyrics. The three songs in the middle of the album, "Winter '05," "Dying is Fine," and "Can You Tell" seem to set themselves above the rest. However, the entire album complements itself and ties together through all the different styles. This record is a must-own for fans of Vampire Weekend and Someone Still Loves You Boris Yeltsin.



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12:00-4:00 Ballrooms Sign up on DiggerNet. Walk-in appointments possible.

Tuesday, September 9

Fall 2008 Career Day 9:30-4:00 Student Rec. Ctr.
More than 200 Companies! Bring your BlasterCard!!!

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Monday, September 8

Total 12:30-1:30 Student Center Room 236

Freeport-McMoran 3:00-5:00 Geology Museum Conference

Navy Officer Opportunities 5:00-7:00 CTLM 242

Tuesday, September 9

Kiewit Construction Company 5:00-6:00 Ballroom C

Society of Mining Engineering Open House 5:00 – 7:30 Ballroom B
Caterpillar, Kinross Gold, Terex, Kiewit

Schlumberger/Field Engineer 6:00-7:00 Ballroom A

Vulcan Materials 6:00-7:00 Ballroom D

Rio Tinto 6:30-7:30 Student Center 236

Wednesday, September 10

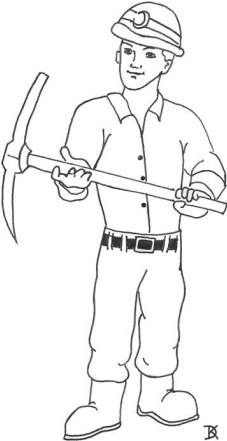
National Instruments 12:00 – 1:00 Ballroom C

Precision Cast Parts 6:00-10:00 Marriott Denver West

PLAN AHEAD for Monday, September 15

BHP Billiton Information Session **Ballroom A** 11:00-12:00
BHP Billiton CEO Mike Yeager – Executive Lecture Series 12:00-1:00

(Please go to DiggerNet and sign up for these events so we can calculate food and/or handouts! Check DiggerNet for any additional events, or changes to the room or timing of events.)



Cross country aspirations

Keegan Hammond
Staff Writer

The Mines men's cross country team is looking good after the CU Time Trial held last Saturday, August 30. Although the time trial was not scored and used more as an added workout, head coach Art Siemers said that he was "pleased, it was a good, not great, start, but it gets us motivated for our second phase of training." Currently in the toughest Division II conference in the nation, the runners have certainly proven themselves. According to the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Pre-Season Poll, Mines men are ranked third out of 11 teams and the women are eighth out of 13 teams.

Although there are three returning runners for the women's team, Siemers said that he expects the "women to be a much better team and there are five freshman who have a good chance at making Varsity." On the other side, the men return five of their top seven runners, and are expected to be at the same top-notch quality as last year. "Our goal is to finish in the top four," Siemers further explained.

Other goals for the season are for the men's team to finish in the top eight in the nation as they have been doing for the past three years. Siemers said he hopes that the women will "get back to the top five in the conference and be

able to qualify for Nationals," a goal that he believes they have a good shot at. Ben Zywicki, the sophomore leader for the men's team, said that he is "looking forward to a good season, and... as long as everyone does what they need to do and stays healthy, it should be a good year."

With a total of 19 incoming freshman, 12 men and 7 women, Siemers said that the ones to look for on the women's side are "Julia Hernandez, Marie Patton, and Briana Suppes, who are all from Colorado."

The men will all be competing red-shirt, which means that they will compete unattached from Colorado School of Mines so that "their eligibility can be saved so we're not graduating our whole squad all the time, we will have talent left," said Siemers. The ones to look for are Tyler Curtis, Russell Drummond, Mike Kasberg, and Adam Bodnar.

Since the entire season consists of Conference, Regionals, and Nationals, other meets are considered practice, and intense practice it is. The women run six kilometers at meets and an average of 45-70 miles per week with 14 mile runs thrown in. The men run eight kilometers during the regular season and ten kilometers for post season. Add in 75-100 miles per week for practice and 19 mile runs and there are a tremendous number of hours invested in perfecting their results.

Mines men are ranked third out of 11 teams

Women's soccer has big plans but no fans

Elise Goggin
Staff Writer

"Mine's Women's Soccer Team RMAC Champs!" Will this be the future headline at the top of this page? It will if they have anything to say about it.

When the Lady Orediggers made their list of goals for the season, "RMAC Champs" was right on top, and they definitely have the potential to get there. In the pre-season rankings, they were tied for third in the RMAC, a very strong conference. Their assistant coach, Lori Scheider, has confidence that her team will either reach, or surpass, this ranking. Scheider said, "After seeing us play, I have really high expectations." She notes that the team's strength lies in their ability to work together as a unit. "[The team] understands each other's strengths and weaknesses and [they] try to play off of those," said Coach Scheider.

So far, the girls are right on track in their climb to the top with a record of 1-1-0. They pulled in their first win against Augustana College with goals by Allison Heeg in the 49th minute and Kayla Mitchell on an assist from Stefanie Frelinger in the 74th minute. The tie came from Upper Iowa when the goals from Adrea Johnson and Alison Oien were not quite enough.

The match ended 2-2 after a double overtime.

So, they have the talent, the confidence, and the drive to reach their goal, but there is one thing missing: fans! As a student body, we need to get out there and support our ladies on the field. It is true that the games are not played on campus, but the field is only about 10 minutes away, so inconvenience is a pretty flimsy excuse. If you are afraid you won't be able to find the field, directions are provided at the bottom of this article, so there goes another excuse down the drain. If, for some reason, you still need motivation to get out to the field, pick any one of the following:

They are good.

What are the odds of seeing 20 good-looking girls in one place when you go to Mines?

The girls love their parents, but let's face it, a sideline full of guys with their

chests painted beats out Mom and Dad any day.

They could be famous some day.

We all spend way too much

time inside doing ridiculous amounts of homework, so it wouldn't kill us to get out, have some fun, breathe some fresh air, and support our Lady Orediggers.

Now that you are out of excuses, I expect to see you all at the games this weekend.

The team is taking on the number two-ranked Metro Roadrunners this Sunday, the 14th. So get your body paint ready, and go cheer on our women. Be sure to get there early because, according to team captain Diane Wetzell, you don't want to miss out on their "awesome warm-up CD!"

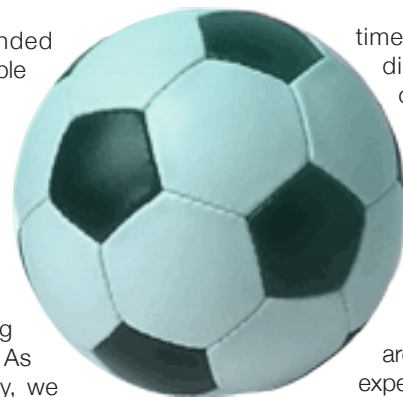
Directions From Westbound 6th Avenue:

Take 6th Avenue westbound through Golden and proceed onto Highway 93 northbound (6th Avenue westbound becomes Highway 93 northbound at the Highway 58 junction).

Proceed on Highway 93 northbound (heading towards Boulder) to West 64th Avenue. Turn right onto West 64th Avenue.

Go past the N.A.A.C. stadiums and the baseball / softball fields. Take the first right-hand turn (West 64th Parkway) after the baseball / softball fields.

Follow the road back to the artificial turf soccer field with lights. Parking will be available.



COURTESY LILY GIDDINGS

They have the talent, the confidence, and the drive to reach their goal, but there is one thing missing: fans.

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CHESS

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TOURNAMENT: MONDAY, SEPT. 15TH

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PLAY BEGINS: MONDAY, SEPT. 22ND

FIELD GOAL COMPETITION

THURS, SEPT. 18TH@ 5PM

TOURNAMENT: SUNDAY, SEPT. 21ST

MEN'S SOCCER GAMES

SATURDAY, SEPT. 13TH

-3PM SOUTH IM

SATURDAY, SEPT. 20TH

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Minds at Mines

Roby Brost, Staff Writer

On August 29, presidential candidate John McCain named the Senator of Alaska, Sarah Palin as the vice president on the Republican Party ticket. His decision has been a hot topic on the nightly news and late night talk shows, at coffee houses and classrooms and in newspapers. So what do students at Mines think of John McCain's decision to run with vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin?

Wendy Brost:

"I haven't done enough research yet but I find McCain's decision hypocritical and insulting. The McCain campaign continues to criticize Obama's campaign for his inexperience, yet promotes an inexperienced female senator for the role of vice president in the hope of garnering the female vote."



Michael Hoban:

"Good. Bold. Risky. But I don't know if she has the requisite credentials to be the next in line for presidency... She's been mayor as long as Obama has been campaigning to be president."



Lydia Collins:

"He's a panderer!"



Jonathan Ford:

"She was an excellent strategic choice. Palin as VP increases my willingness to vote for McCain... She has the potential to shake things up in the political world. She also supports McCain's image as a 'maverick'."



Landan Schaffert:

"I think that it was a good choice for McCain because he'll pull in a lot of the Hillary supporters by choosing a woman as vice president."



Courtney Judish:

"I think it's a good thing that he chose her 'cause it will help out his standing because she's a woman. As a conservative, I really think that it was a good decision."



David Orton:

"It was the most brilliant strategic move ever made by a Republican."



ALL PHOTOS ROBY BROST / OREDIGGER

Conventional insanity

Andrew Aschenbrenner
Opinion Columnist

It's been a comedian's dream the past two weeks, as the Democrats and the Republicans threw nominating parties in Denver and St. Paul, Minnesota. Ironies abounded. Pundits were everywhere. The political conventions feel like a four-day commemorative special on what your public servants haven't accomplished. The question begs: what do these political conventions offer to Americans?

The respective conventions are a chance for the parties to parade their message, but is it anything we haven't already heard? The self-serving Republicans and Democrats put on propaganda shows every four years. Promises galore are made, but little substance is to be found. Sound bites entice the media. They offer Joe Voter nothing except flouted expectations.

This election is hugely significant, but the Republicans and Democrats seem to think that they can offer us the same old crap under a new banner and in a freshly-laundered suit. After nearly eight days of political conventions, I'm not at all convinced that these parties grasp where our nation is. Like George H.W. Bush staring at a supermarket scanner, they are mystified at the prospect of an America that we can't recognize.

The reality is that our economy is seeing tough times. Unemployment is relatively high at 6.1 percent according to a government report just released, millions of homes are going into foreclosure as a result of the mortgage crisis, a recent global

wealth report shows that the top 1 percent of the world owns 35 percent of the wealth, and middle-income Americans increasingly rely on credit to get by.

How are these economic problems going to be fixed? One would think that the candidates would lay out a plan at their respective conventions. To be fair, they did in some respects, but I felt myself asking where the beef was. Barack Obama gave some specifics of planning, but balance was missing. John McCain uttered the word "economy" six times in his speech, but left out the plan part. Desires are great, but if I don't know how, then I don't know at all.

Other important issues in this election are military and foreign policy, health care, and energy independence. All figure to have a substantial impact on the country going forward, but the conventions really didn't say anything that I didn't already know.

It has been a long time since the American political scene was more substance than flash. Today, substance is few and far between. Occasionally, the rare office-holder turns up who actually helps the country run, through legislation or through governance. The good news is that the electorate in the United States is growing more independent, as dissatisfaction with the way things are going in Washington D.C. is translating into a desire to vote on the issues.

Political conventions are anything but

necessary. They cost taxpayers millions, but are merely promotional events. Other than a big "screw you" to independent voters, who do have the right to pick candidates who aren't Democrat or Republican, each convention is a four-day distortion-fest. If you're lucky enough to dig out from all the misinformation, you're no closer to picking a candidate than you were in the first place.

I generally think of myself as a libertarian; viewing the conventions this year was an exercise in patience. While I concede that I will probably end up voting for Barack Obama, I wasn't happy with what I saw from either party. It's intriguing to see politicians try to communicate, because it's invariably tied to what they think you want to hear. Doesn't anyone have an original idea any more?

The message that I got from the Democrats was that they think they understand the pains of America, and, damn, government is going to help you do something about it. As for that McCain fellow, they say he's just clueless. First of all, this message is regurgitated. This is nothing I haven't heard before from the Democrats, but yet again, they really haven't had a chance to prove themselves wrong.

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Zach and Robbie**

Celebrity smackdown Biden versus Palin

Anant Pradhan
Staff Writer

In 2007, shortly after being elected Governor of the State of Alaska, Sarah Palin applied for and received her first American passport. Her foreign policy experience consists of a trip to Germany and Kuwait to visit the Alaskan National Guard. Republican Presidential nominee John McCain picked the one individual as his running mate who models the strongest criticisms he has had for Democratic nominee Barack Obama.

Comparing Sarah Palin's foreign policy experience to either Barack Obama or democratic Vice Presidential nominee Joe Biden is the equivalent of comparing the gas mileage of a Hummer to a Prius. There is just no comparison.

Obama has traveled outside of the country many times including a four year period in which he lived in Jakarta, Indonesia. While he may lack policy experience, his international experience is endless.

Senator Biden, however, has significant foreign policy experience and is often considered one of the leading voices of the Democratic party on foreign policy and currently serves as the chair for the Senate Foreign Relations committee. In essence, Obama used Biden's foreign policy experience to improve the strength of his ticket; McCain,

on the other hand, weakened his ticket by choosing someone with so little practice in foreign policy.

For several months, McCain has extensively criticized Obama's lack of experience in politics. On December 4th, 2006, Sarah Palin was elected to Governor of Alaska, meaning she has served as a state officer for less than two years. Prior to being elected Governor, she served as the Chairperson to the Alaskan Oil and Gas Conservation Commission and as the Mayor of Wasilla, Alaska, population 7,025.

In contrast, Barack Obama served as a senator to the Illinois state Senate for eight years followed by his election to the U.S. Senate on January 4, 2005. Senator Biden has served as a U.S. Senator since 1972. Enough said.

Many people say that all of this doesn't matter, however, since the position of Vice President has marginal authority in government. However, consider that almost 20% of Vice Presidents have assumed the Presidential role either as a result of resignation or death. Also consider that if elected, John McCain will be the oldest President ever elected at the age of 72. Finally, consider that John McCain has suffered from

melanoma, which causes the majority of skin cancer related deaths.

Taking into account all of those considerations, there is a decent probability that Sarah Palin may one day be President. It's interesting then to see that the harshest criticisms McCain has levied against Obama are so apparent in his own Vice Presidential nominee.

Instead, McCain may have simply made a political move for Hillary Clinton supporters with his nomination. The move, however, may be too little, too late. During the Democratic National Convention, Hillary made a rather compelling speech to shift her supporters to Obama's side. She effectively highlighted the need to support the party, not the candidate.

If McCain had instead made the announcement prior to the DNC, he may have been able to garner her supporters, but as it stands the move was very weak. While Obama strengthened his ticket with his Vice Presidential announcement, it is clear that McCain has weakened his.

Fool's Gold

“I’m back, biatch!”



BENJAMIN M. WEILERT / OREDIGGER

Newton v. Leibniz. This groundbreaking case was settled out of court and in the ring.

Physics Dept. arrested

Some laws were not meant to be broken

Benjamin M. Weilert
Physicist

S.W.A.T. teams broke into Meyer Hall last Wednesday because of some disturbing reports about the activities of the resident physicists. These reports described the strange behavior of the students and faculty of the Physics department. Improper facial grooming, lack of proper footwear and levitation were among the items on the reports.

Unfortunately for the department, the levitation charge was the most serious as it broke one of the Universe's most sacred laws. According to Universal penal code 11643-N, “All things, regardless of sentience, must obey the law of gravity. Upon breaking said law, the perpetrator must be fastened to the ground with large metal spikes.”

Sergeant Major Isaac Gottfried commented on the situation, “it was the strangest thing I'd ever seen. All these hippies were floating around the room, throwing Frisbees and talking gibberish about spatial singularities within the frequency

domain of time, or some nonsense. Regardless, the law is very firm in its wording.” With a sick and twisted smile, he produced a large sledge hammer and some railroad spikes.

The department head refused to comment on the incident, but did mention that they would fight this through whatever means possible. A case this large could just overshadow the previous science related court case, *Newton v. Leibniz*, which was settled out of court, in a boxing ring.

Even though the entire department was arrested, they believe to have the upper hand in their case. Upon further investigation of the levitating physicists, one could see very fine strings holding them up off the ground. According to a statement released on Thursday, the Physics department had this to say, “we’re not breaking the law of gravity, because of the simple fact that we’re relying on string theory to levitate. Most people don’t understand string theory, so it’s only natural to brand it as witchcraft.”

Killer fungus invades Student Center, falls

Cameron Frisby
Athlete’s foot free reporter

Last Friday saw a terrible tragedy; the fungus known as *Fregialiabiporus* [Freddie] took over a large swath of campus.

Raised in a troubled home, the young Freddie quickly learned that the only way that he could succeed was if he reached out and took power for himself. So by the time he graduated from Stilton High, Fred took a different path than his multi-cellular friends.

While his fellow graduates moved into the lucrative mushroom and dairy production fields, Freddie took an entrepreneurial turn and entered the cutthroat money counterfeiting industry.

Due to his incredibly small size, he could create printing plates that matched the originals down to the nanometer. It didn’t take long before Freddie had emerged from the shadows at the helm of his own mafia group, the “Cells of Anarchy.” Although proud

of his accomplishments, the newest mafia boss on the block started to step on some very established toes.

The mycotoxin embargo feared that Freddie would manufacture enough money to put them out of business if he was allowed to continue operating. After ignoring the cartel’s threats to stop his production line, Freddie found himself fighting for his life. His factory had been breached and he was thrown onto his own assembly line.

The cartel thought that they had sealed him away for good, but that was until a student here at Mines naively withdrew the contaminated twenty on Friday. After being used to purchase the cheeseburger value meal at the DiggerDen, Freddie found himself free once more. Being out of his element did not stop him from improvising.

Before being sealed in his green-back prison, Fred had caught wind of the cartel’s dastardly plan. His subsequent research into the toxins industry had allowed him to discover a new type of fungus. This fungus would

act as the perfect army, obeying his every whim. However, before he could unleash his fury upon the world, the cartel sealed him away with President Andrew Jackson.

Finally free of his cage, Freddie released his army to spread and multiply throughout the campus. The new toxin army feed off dandruff and body odor, two things that are sadly in excess here at Mines. Consequently, Freddie took over every major building on campus except the residence halls.

Spearheaded by the brave souls at Weaver Towers, the facilities management staff fended off the invading army with massive amounts of bleach while the R.A.s shaved and hosed down the new freshman.

Deprived of his resource base, Freddie has since retreated to Alderson Hall where enough dandruff has fallen off of napping students over the years to help him replenish his forces. We are safe now, but probably not for long...

New bumper sticker law

CDOT says, “Bye, bye bumper puns”

Mike Stone
“Honk if you’re single”-ologist

The Colorado State Legislature approved a bill last Thursday to ban certain bumper stickers from being displayed on the back of Colorado drivers’ cars. In a project supported by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), the bill has been on the floor for over two years in debate over its legality.

Colorado District 13 representative Dan Theman has been a major lobbyist for CDOT. “People will throw anything on the back of their car because of supposed ‘free speech’ rights. They don’t take into consideration the poor driver behind them at the stop light.” Theman says stickers representing anything from karate dojos to elementary schools are, “downright ridiculous. I don’t care if your kid is an honor student in the 4th grade!”

The new law now restricts the back of cars to only the following four things: Pink Ribbons, Yel-

low Ribbons, Sports Team Emblems, and anything with scantily clad silhouettes of women. The intent is to “cut back on wasteful thought propaganda” according to the law’s subsections.

A Golden citizen of 32 years, Kelly “the Cat Lady” Bershinski is very upset about the new law. “Yes, I support the troops and breast cancer research, but I want to keep my aquamarine ribbon for endangered seals in the Northern Pacific, periwinkle ribbon for the Arabian Mice Trader’s Union, and my dioxizine-purple ribbon for oddly named, colored ribbons.”

Mines student Jason McVirgin commented, “I’m glad the law is finally here. I’ve never looked at a political bumper sticker and thought, ‘Wow! The guy in the run-down green Volkswagon supports Obama! I’m going to vote just like him!’ Please, I don’t even like Germans.”



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Sticker. The puns of future generations will be lost in blogging.

The law is aimed to also make child abductions more difficult. Theman explains that, “Adults will put little cartoons of every family member in the bottom left-hand corner of their back window. They even put their pets in that row of people. These stickers are like calling cards for abductionists and teenagers looking for MILFs alike.”

As a condition of the law, all campus parking stickers must be removed by October 1st. Instead, a 14-foot wacky waving inflatable arm tube man will be attached to every student’s hood.

In a joking matter off the record, Theman also explained how he doesn’t care if your kid is an Eagle scout, Lacrosse player or writer for a newspaper. “All three of those activities are blasphemous.”

99.9% of Fool’s Gold articles actually true

Most students still think articles are just jokes

Tim Weilert
Truthologist

“Newspapers need to be messengers of unbiased truth,” said Affiliated Press spokesman Jerry Gordon during a press conference last Tuesday, “but we never thought we’d see a paper so dedicated to the truth.”

Gordon was referring to a recent in-depth investigation that was performed by an independent research firm known as the “Literary Integrity Examiners.” The group, also known as L.I.E., spent several years at the Colorado School of Mines, researching

The Oredigger and the sub-periodical *Fool’s Gold*. Their results were conclusive: While only 75% of articles in *The Oredigger* were found to be entirely unbiased, an astonishing 99.9% of the articles in *Fool’s Gold* were found to have been written entirely honestly and without bias.

The firm also found that the student body was entirely out of touch with the outside world and current events. “These students didn’t even know that a giant ham sandwich took over Seattle last week,” said L.I.E. director Bullford Shitake, “and they had no idea that Mr. T had announced his

bid for the presidency.”

While L.I.E. would have loved to give *Fool’s Gold* a 100% truthiness rating, they said that they simply could not until an article about the dangers of meatloaf was run. However, since *Fool’s Gold* did receive a rating that went above and beyond the call of duty, all *Fool’s Gold* writers were awarded Purple Hearts, Medals of Honor and Nobel Prizes.

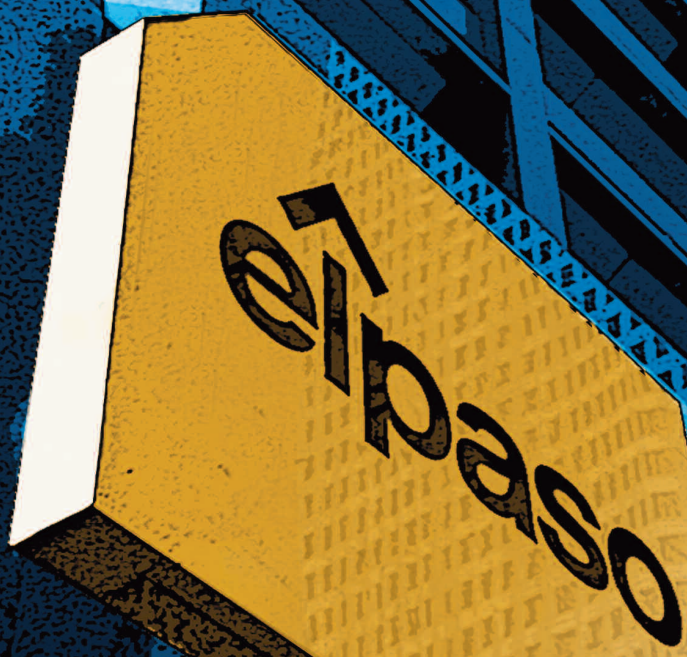
So next time you are reading this fine section of the newspaper, stop and think “is this really the truth?” Well, according to 9 out of 15 dentists it is.

sudoku

1		4	8	2	3			
5					4			
		6				3		
			4			6	2	
	2			5			3	
	4	9			7			
		8				2		
			3					7
			7	9	8	1		3

Puzzle by websudoku.com

you are here.



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09-09-08

Career Fair

9:30 AM – 4:00 PM

at Student Recreation Center

09-15-08

J. Michael Yeager, Group Executive,
Chief Executive Petroleum
Recruitment Presentation

11:00 AM – 11:45 AM

at Student Center Ballrooms A-C

09-15-08

Executive Lecture Series

J. Michael Yeager, Group Executive,
Chief Executive Petroleum**Resourcing The Future: The Keys
to Opening New Doors
in the Petroleum Industry**

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

at Student Center Ballrooms A-C

09-21-08

DiggerNet – Resume Drop Deadline

12:00 Midnight

10-06-08 & 10-07-08

On-Campus Interview

Pre-Selected via DiggerNet

at Carrer Center

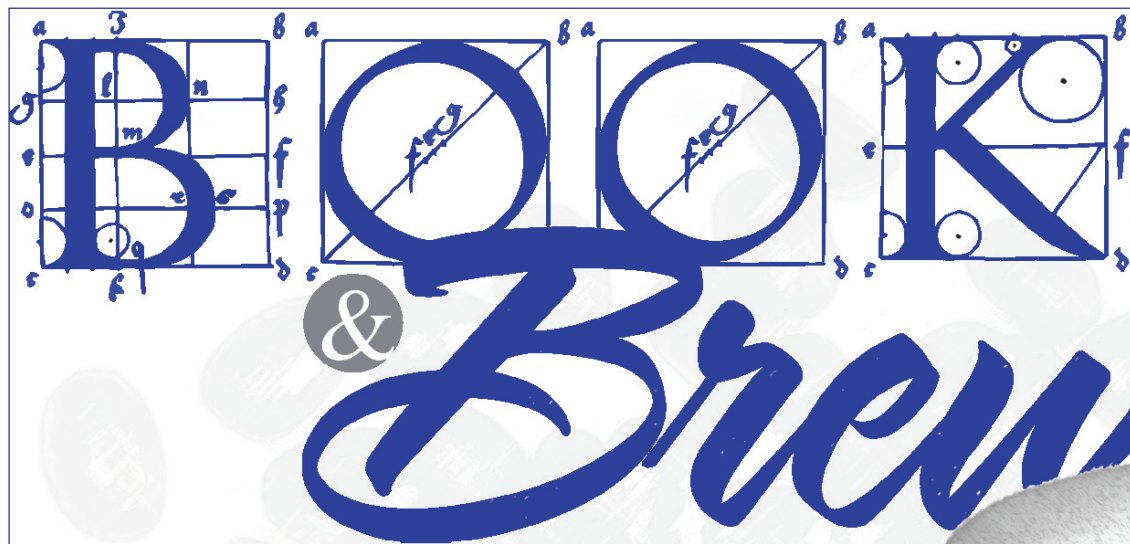


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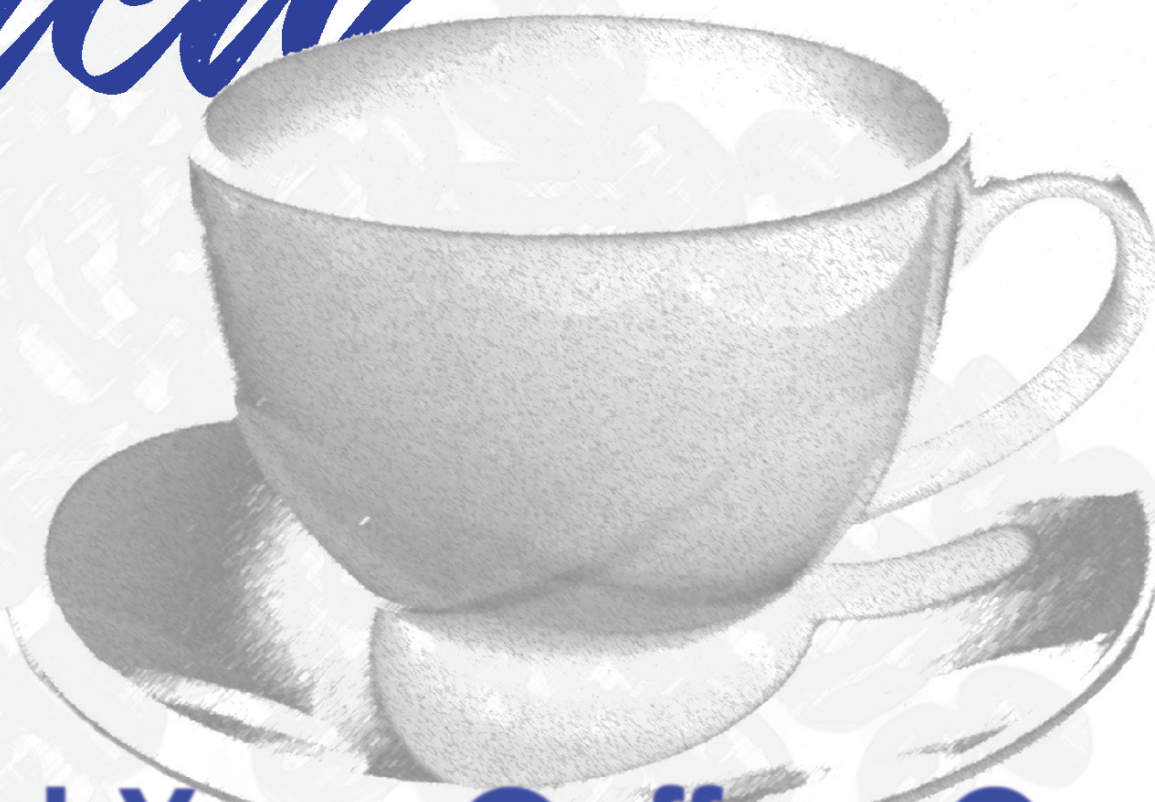
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